Development of JROs in Punjab

2193. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent by the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPC) on the development of Jubilee Retail Outlets (JROs) in Punjab;

(b) the total quantity of MS (Petrol)/HSD(Diesel) sold by IOC's and HPC's JROs and appointed labour contractors in the State;

(c) the number of complaints alleging irregularities in the functioning of IOC's and HPC's JROs in the State received by the Ministry since their commissioning, company-wise; and

(d) the details of action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The total amount spent by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) on the development of Jubilee Retail Outlets (JROs) in the State of Punjab is Rs. 6.65 crore.

(b) The total quantities of MS(Petrol) and HSD (Diesel) sold by the JROs of the two companies in the State so far are 3,582 KL and 80,858 KL respectively.

(c) and (d) As reported by IOC and HPC, they have not received any complaint alleging irregularities in the functioning of their JROs in the State.

Expansion of GAIL's pipeline network

2194. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) supplies natural gas through gas pipeline network in certain cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of GAIL's future expansion plan in city gas distribution business in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) GAIL supplies natural gas through gas

pipeline network to Mumbai and Delhi through its Joint Ventures, M/s Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) in Mumbai and M/s Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) in Delhi. GAIL propose to take up city gas distribution projects in other cities also. In Andhra Pradesh, GAIL has set up a Joint Venture Company with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) for taking up city gas distribution projects in Vijayawada and Hyderabad-Secunderabad and other major towns in the State. Further, GAIL, in association with Oil Marketing Companies, is also taking up city gas distribution projects in Agra, Lucknow, Bareilly, Kanpur and Pune. Action has already been initiated for expanding the city gas distribution projects in Thane and Navi Mumbai by MGL and in Gurgaon, Faridabad and Noida by IGL.

Oil and gas exploration in Tamil Nadu

2195. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of various ongoing oil/gas explorations in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) the current status of the Narimanam project in particular; and

(c) the proposal/ plan regarding the utilization of the gas/oil available in the project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) As on 1.4.2004, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has acquired 39,948 Ground Line Kilometer of 2D seismic, 1,811 Square Kilometer of 3D seismic surveys and drilled 404 exploratory wells in the State of Tamil Nadu. These exploratory efforts of ONGC have led to the discovery of 26 hydrocarbon finds (18 oil and 8 gas) with initial in-place reserve accretion of 117.58 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) of oil and oil equivalent of gas in the State.

In addition, two exploration blocks, namely CY-ONN-2002/1and CYONN-2002/2 have been awarded to the consortium of Enpro Finance Private Ltd., GAIL India Ltd. (GAIL) and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation; and ONGC and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. respectively under the fourth round of the New Exploration Licensing Policy.

(b) ONGC started production of crude oil and natural gas from the Narimanam field in the year 1984-85 and the current rate of production is